Application No.: 10/019839 Docket No.: HHI-035USRCE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of this amendment, the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the pending application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

1. (Previously Presented) A behind the ear hearing aid, comprising a housing having a housing shell configured in a contoured shape, an electronic circuit, a power storage unit, and a multi-function plate designed as a front plate for use in an in-ear hearing aid and adapted to couple to the housing shell to form the behind the ear hearing aid, wherein the multifunction plate includes an access opening for one of the power storage unit and the electronic circuit.

2. (Canceled)

- 3. (Previously Presented) The hearing aid according to claim 1, wherein the front plate is matched to the contour of the housing shell in standard production.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The hearing aid according to claim 1, wherein the housing shell and the front plate are joined in a detachable manner.

5. (Canceled)